

***For Your Information***  
***Weekly***  
**FROM THE CITY MANAGER & STAFF**  
**December 9, 2016**



A BIG THANK YOU to Libby Williams and City Staff for making sure City Hall is beautifully decorated for the holiday season. Your time and talent is very much appreciated.

**PLEASE BE AWARE OF UTILITY PAYMENT SCAMS:** Scam artists are calling Utility customers posing as employees of Clewiston Utilities and threatening disconnection of services if payment is not made immediately. Please be aware:

- 1) Clewiston Utilities will NEVER request you to purchase money cards or gift cards to pay your account over the phone.
- 2) Clewiston Utilities will NEVER contact our customers on the weekend and threaten disconnection of services.
- 3) Clewiston Utilities will NEVER speak to our customers in a threatening tone.

**If you feel you have been a victim of this scam, please contact Clewiston Utilities to verify the call or the Clewiston Police Department and file a report.**

**Dates to Remember**

December 12, 2016 – Clewiston Library Advisory Board Meeting  
December 14, 2016 – Special Magistrate Hearing  
December 15, 2016 – Clewiston Golf Course Advisory Board Meeting  
December 15, 2016 – Clewiston City Commission Workshop  
December 19, 2016 – Clewiston City Commission Meeting  
December 23-26, 2016 – Christmas Holiday – City Offices will be closed

## **Staff Reports**

### **Community Development Director Reese reports:**

- Representatives for the Hampton Inn project met with staff to finalize the comments from the Technical Review Committee on November 21<sup>st</sup>. The four (4) story hotel to be located at 305 West Sugarland Hwy. may be on the agenda for City approval as early as January 2017.
- The Fire Department responded to a structure fire of a vacant home in the 1100 block of Georgia Avenue in the Harlem community with no injuries reported. The State Fire Marshal is investigating the cause of the fire.

### **Library Director Barrett reports:**

- The library is looking great as it received its annual, Christmas dress up. Each year the Green Thumb Garden Club does this for the library, using natural decorations from our environment to make a fashion statement on behalf of the library. A great big thank you goes out from us at the library to Ms. Karen Cochrane and her team, including the mother-in-law of our own City Manager. Here is a picture of one piece of the decoration:



- The library's senior computer class will close out next week. Seniors have been expressing gratitude for the training and are asking for more. Thanks again to Danny Williams and Justin Lucas (JD) for making this possible. We hope to do this again next year.
- The annual library holiday giveaway program this year will focus on the children in our After School program. The event will take place next Monday evening, 5:30 PM. Thanks to Sean Scheffler of Public Works who has agreed to dramatize the story "The Night Before Christmas" for the children, with props and all. Refreshments will be provided.
- There will be a free computer giveaway at the library this Saturday. Computers were purchased by US Sugar for this purpose. They will be distributed on a first come first served basis. Already several persons are calling about this event. After the first 10, other

computers will be on sale for \$20.00 and up. The program will be hosted by the non-profit Komputers for Kids.

- The library took part in the Clewiston High school Career Day program yesterday. It was an interesting event and the Director got a chance to expose the high school attendees not only to the professional field of librarianship, but also to beneficial resources available here on our website.
- For further questions the Library's telephone number is 863-983-1493. You can also visit our website at [www.hendrylibraries.org](http://www.hendrylibraries.org) for more information and like us at [www.facebook.com/clewistonpubliclibrary](https://www.facebook.com/clewistonpubliclibrary).

### **Golf Course Director Robbie Rush Reports:**

- Get all Clewiston Golf Course news. Visit our website at [www.clewiston-fl.gov](http://www.clewiston-fl.gov) and sign up under Constant Contact. You will automatically be put on the golf course e-mail.
- Golf lessons is a great gift idea for Christmas gifts. They are available, contact Robbie Rush at 863-983-1448.
- Great gift idea for Christmas - get your grips re-done. Contact 863-983-1448.
- Play is starting to pick up at the golf course. Tee times are required.
- Clewiston Golf Course has Sun Mountain Golf Bags, Titleist 917 Drivers, Imperial Logo Hats, Golf Buddy Range Finders, Tervis Tumblers, Ping Irons, Ping Woods, Putters, Wedges, Donald Ross Men's Shirts, Greg Norman Collection Women's Clothes and Outerwear for both men and women.
- Golf Course staff can get anything for you that pertains to golf. You can find great **Christmas Gifts** in the golf shop.
- Remember Clewiston Golf Course Facebook Website has a lot of info and great pictures. Check it out.
- All golf carts must be in by 5:45pm now for the Fall and Winter season. First tee time every day is 7:30am.
- Wegscheid Memorial Golf Tournament on Saturday, December 3, 2016 had 80 players. Congratulations!! Andy McGahee, Donald Bain, Harm Schutte and Anthony Robinson. They were the winners with a score of -13 59.
- Clewiston Golf Course is holding its annual Gators vs World Tournament December 9-11, 2016. The golf course will be closing on Friday, December 9, 2016 at 1pm. On Saturday the 10<sup>th</sup> and Sunday the 11<sup>th</sup> the golf course will be open for regular play all day.
- Clewiston Golf Course Men's Club Championship is Saturday, December 17, 2016. For more information call 863-983-1448.
- The golf staff has put together our January-June Tournament Schedule and Ladies/Junior Golf Clinics. You can pick up the booklets in the golf shop.
- Please rake bunkers, fill divots and stay back from the green slopes and tee slopes with the golf carts. The golf course is in wonderful shape and we as golfers have the responsibility to keep it that way. **Respect Your Surroundings!!** Thank You.
- If you are looking for people to play with, please ask someone on the golf staff. There are groups for everybody to play with no matter age or skill level. We will lead you.

**Recreation Director Lance Ramer reports:**

- **FREE 50+ T'ia Chi Classes** Free T'ia Chi classes for those individuals 50 years old and older at the Youth Center began on Wednesday Dec. 7<sup>th</sup> from 9am – 10am and will continue every Wednesday thru Jan. 25<sup>th</sup>, 2017. Licensed Instructor Gretchen DeBree will be conducting the class.
- Clewiston Animal Control will be hosting a **FREE** Rabies Clinic and **FREE** Dog and Cat Food give-away at Trinidad Park Pavilion on Saturday Dec. 10<sup>th</sup> from 10am – 2pm. Dogs must be on a leash and cats must be in a carrier.
- The basketball goals have been re-set on the East Tennis Courts. Thank You to the Public Works and Utilities Dept. for their help in accomplishing this task!
- Lines have been taped in red onto the two (2) East Tennis Courts for pickleball.
- AYSO Soccer completed their season with a Jamboree last Saturday at Sugarland Sports Complex. 4 teams have been formed in U-10, U-12 and U-14 age groups to participate in the AYSO State Games over the MLK Weekend in Palm Beach.
- Ballfield staff has begun to break down the soccer goals and make any repairs to them, clean and store them for next season.
- Ballfield crew has moved CHS Boys and Girls Soccer to Cane Field for the remainder of their seasons.
- Ballfield crews are prepping the baseball and softball fields for the upcoming seasons. Clay will be ordered this week and spread as soon as possible onto the playing fields.
- Live Mission Youth Development will be hosting a FREE “Movie in the Park” on Dec. 9<sup>th</sup> at the Sugar Fest Field at 6:30pm... Bring your lawn chairs and a blanket and enjoy “The Secret Life of Pets”...
- ACFC (Active Citizens For Children) will be hosting SANTA on Dec. 9<sup>th</sup> at 6pm at the Sugar Fest Field before the “Movie in the Park”... Bring the kids out and families for pictures and don't forget your lists...
- Food Truck Invasion will be hosted by AYSO Soccer on Dec. 19<sup>th</sup> at the Sugar Fest Field from 5-9pm... different trucks, different activities, same GREAT community event..! Hope to see you there!
- PICKLEBALL has arrived in Clewiston... A Pickleball demonstration and rules of the game seminar will take place on the East Tennis Courts under the lights on Dec. 19<sup>th</sup> during the “Food Truck Invasion”... Come over to watch and learn the newest sport sweeping the nation..!
- The Splash Pad will continue to be open on Tuesdays from 3-5pm, Thursdays from 10am-Noon and Saturday/Sundays from 9am-7pm.
- **UPCOMING** Weekly highlights for Clewiston Recreation
  - Dec. 9<sup>th</sup> – Southern Garden Employee Luncheon Noon Southern Garden Juice Plant
  - Dec. 9<sup>th</sup> – City of Clewiston Christmas Luncheon Noon Elks Club
  - Dec. 9<sup>th</sup> – SANTA 6pm Sugar Fest Field (ACFC)
  - Dec. 9<sup>th</sup> – Movie in the Park “The Secret Life of Pets” 6:30pm (Live Mission Youth Development)
  - Dec. 10<sup>th</sup> – FREE RABIES and PET FOOD Give-Away 10am-2pm Trinidad Park (Clewiston Animal Control)
  - Dec. 10<sup>th</sup> – Seminole Tribe Gratitude Dinner 8am-Noon John Boy Auditorium
  - Dec. 10<sup>th</sup> – Birthday Party 2-6pm Sugarland Park Pavilion

- Dec. 12<sup>th</sup> – Heathy Family Parent Group Christmas Luncheon 9:30-1pm Youth Center
- Go to [www.clewistonrecreation.com](http://www.clewistonrecreation.com) to check us out and get information regarding all your recreational needs.

#### **Public Works Director Sean Scheffler reports:**

- Mosquito Control: Trap counts: Traps barely caught mosquitoes.
- Street Maintenance: (1) Staff repaired a sink hole on Central Avenue this week. A connection failed and soil was washing into the system. (2) The last of this year's Christmas Decorations have been put up. (3) An irrigation line was installed on Olympia Street at Commerce Court. (4) Three locations have been identified to be paved as a "Piggy Back" on the paving portion of the drainage project on Alverdez.
- Facility Maintenance: (1) A leaking water faucet in the Library was replaced. (2) The fan motor in the P.D. air conditioner was pulled and will be replaced when the new one comes in. (3) Manny contacted with a Glass Contractor regarding repairing where the glass has dropped down in the frame at two locations.
- The Mowing Contract: There was a Bid Opening for this coming year's mowing contract. Four contractors submitted bids.
- Drainage Project: (1) A Notice of Award for the drainage project on San Gabriel and Alverdez (Block 402) was issued on the 28<sup>th</sup>. (2) Sean met with the SFWM on Wednesday to discuss the drainage project on Ventura. We are trying to get as much pipe and inlets in the ground as we can.
- Holiday Solid Waste Services: The Public Works Department is planning to place dumpsters at 20 different locations throughout town before Christmas. Residents are asked to use the dumpsters for "over flow" Christmas debris. This is in hopes of keeping boxes and debris off the shoulder of the road. Be sure to break down boxes and do "NOT" place cooking oil, TVs, old PCs, radios, stereos and any other electric device in the bins. These items are to be placed beside the bin for a different form of collection. We will offer regular solid waste collection operations the day after Christmas. This should help keep America's Sweetest Town America's cleanest town. So pass the word and use these bins responsibly.

#### **Police Chief Gutshall reports:**

- Officers received "curb service" for a couple of arrests this week. While they were standing outside the PD, a vehicle pulled up to the building and a woman jumped out of the car screaming "He (male passenger) spit on me". Following a brief investigation, the male was arrested for an earlier domestic battery and open container. The driver was arrested for DUI.
- Officers were called to a dispute at a local hotel. A pair had rented a room for two days and left the room for a brief time during their stay. Upon return, they found the hotel clerk had accidentally rented the same room to another person. A member of the first pair told officers some of his property was missing. The case has been turned over to CID.
- On East Ventura a man walked over to his neighbor's house unannounced in order to collect a debt he was owed. Instead he collected a knot on his head when the neighbor struck him with a pipe. The case has been sent to SAO for review of potential charges.
- Following is a brief synopsis of the week's activity:

<b>980</b>	Commercial / Residential Security Checks
<b>522</b>	Complaints Investigated
<b>26</b>	Traffic Citations Issued
<b>17</b>	Arrests Made
<b>8</b>	Alarms Responded To
<b>42</b>	Red Light Camera Violations Issued
<b>57</b>	Merchant Escorts Provided
<b>7</b>	Traffic Accidents Investigated

**Utilities Director Williams reports:**

- Water Sewer Activities
  - Repaired 2” water main break in Aztec Trailer Park and water breaks on East Trinidad and West Ventura
  - Changed 2 water meters in Harlem Gardens
  - Ran 400 feet of pipe in Commerce Park
  - Lift Station Maintenance: Pulled pump at main lift station; read all lift stations
- Electric Activities
  - Ran new underground service in Orchard Park
  - Put up Christmas lights and decorations in Civic Park and added new junction boxes
  - Repaired a 3 phase span to the wastewater treatment plant
  - Assisted USSC with power outage
  - Repaired street lights and changed out lightning arrestors
- Please remember to register with CodeRed (Reverse 911). This system allows us to contact you in case of an emergency or with other informational announcements. You may register by clicking on the CodeRed link at the bottom of the City’s website page [www.clewiston-fl.gov](http://www.clewiston-fl.gov). You may update your information at any time through the same link.
- If you are considering replacing your air conditioner or insulation, remember the City offers a rebate program for those items. Most local contractors participate in the program and can give you information. You can also visit our website at [www.clewiston-fl.gov](http://www.clewiston-fl.gov) or call our office.
- DON’T FORGET TO SIGN UP FOR YOUR METER BASED SURGE PROTECTION! Visit our office today.
- ONLINE BILL PAY IS AVAILABLE on our web site at [www.clewiston-fl.gov](http://www.clewiston-fl.gov) or [www.municipalonlinepayments.com/clewistonfl](http://www.municipalonlinepayments.com/clewistonfl).